

REMARKS

Claims 1-22 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, independent claims 1, 13 and 22 are amended to even further distinguish over the applied references, claims 3, 4, 9, 15, 16 and 21 are amended to maintain consistency with independent claims 1 and 13. Support for the amendments can be found, for example, at paragraph [0002], at paragraph [0024], at paragraph [0029], at paragraph [0033] and in Fig. 5. No new matter is added.

The courtesies extended to Applicants' representatives by Examiner Washington and his supervisor, Examiner Poon, at the Personal interview held December 13, 2007, are appreciated. The reasons presented at the interview as warranting favorable action are incorporated into the remarks below and constitute Applicants' record of the interview.

The Office Action rejects: (1) claims 1, 2, 5-8, 11, 13, 14, 18 and 22 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Kagaya et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,119,471) (Kagaya) in view of Baecke et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,597,365) (Baecke) and "well known prior art"; (2) claims 3, 4, 15-17 and 22 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Kagaya, Baecke and "well known prior art" in view of Lam et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,417,014) (Lam); (3) claims 9 and 21 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Kagaya, Baecke and "well known prior art" in view of Appelman (U.S. Patent No. 6,112,250); (4) claims 10 and 19 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Kagaya, Baecke and "well known prior art" in view of Eschbach et al. (U.S. Patent No. 7,102,792) (Eschbach); (5) claim 11 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Kagaya, Baecke and "well known prior art" in view of *The Kepler Report on Digital Publishing* (Issue 5.4. July/August 2000) (The Kepler Report); and (6) claims 12 and 20 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Kagaya, Baecke, "well known prior art," and Eschbach in view of Giuffrida et al. (U.S. Application No. 2003/0028503) (Giuffrida). The rejections are respectfully traversed.

Kagaya fails to disclose or suggest a controller that controls the alteration circuit to perform at least some required alterations of the electronic data, determines whether the

stored electronic data is awaiting further required action unable to be performed at that time following at least some of the performed required alterations, determines if the stored electronic data will be waiting for a sufficient period of time, and controls the alteration circuit to perform optional alterations of the stored electronic data when the controller determines that the sufficient period of time exists, as recited by independent claim 1. In contrast, Kagaya discloses a system that performs required operations at known breaks in processor use for data transfer to a print head. In particular, Kagaya transmits to the print head one segment of the electronic data, and then processes the next segment of electronic data, performing required actions such as required font alterations. Kagaya is not determining if the stored electronic data is awaiting further required action unable to be performed at that time, but rather, Kagaya is merely using the processor at its next available moment. See Kagaya col. 5, lines 11-30 and Fig. 6(b). The process of Kagaya is during required processing of the electronic data, not while awaiting further required processing unable to be performed at that time. Still further, Kagaya fails to disclose or suggest optional alterations, but merely discloses required font alterations, for example transforming a standard font to an italic font. Thus, Kagaya fails to disclose or suggest the combination of features of independent claim 1. Similar features are recited by independent claims 13 and 22. Accordingly, Kagaya fails to disclose or suggest the combination of features of independent claims 13 and 22.

Baecke and the allegedly well known prior art fail to cure the deficiencies of Kagaya, and therefore, Kagaya, Baecke and the allegedly well known prior art, whether taken in combination or alone, fail to disclose or suggest the combination of features of independent claims 1, 13 and 22. Still further, neither Lam, Appelman, Eschbach, the Kepler Report, nor Giuffrida cure the deficiencies of Kagaya, Baecke and the allegedly well known prior art. Thus, independent claims 1, 13 and 22 are patentable over all of the applied references.

Claims 2-12 and 14-21 depend from independent claims 1 and 13, respectively.

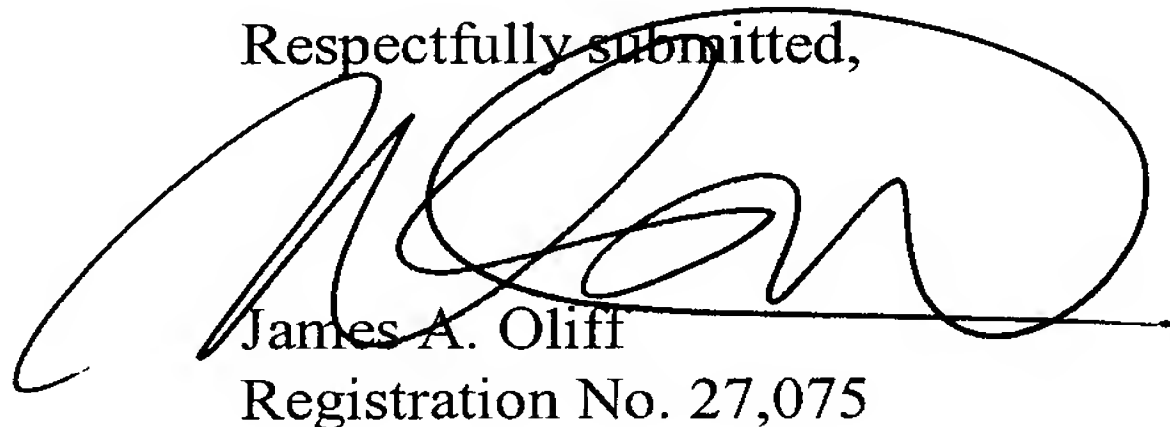
Accordingly, claims 2-12 and 14-21 are patentable over the applied references for at least the same reasons as claims 1 and 13, as well as for the additional features they recite.

Withdrawal of the rejections is requested.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of all pending claims are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



James A. Oliff
Registration No. 27,075

Linda M. Saltiel
Registration No. 51,122

JAO:LMS/mem

Date: December 17, 2007

OLIFF & BERRIDGE, PLC
P.O. Box 320850
Alexandria, Virginia 22320-4850
Telephone: (703) 836-6400

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